

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02245 051407Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OES-07 DOE-11 SOE-02
/101 W

-----122042 051421Z /50

R 051157Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7270
INFO USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2245

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR IR IZ
SUBJ: KHALATBARY COMMENTS ON HIS VISIT TO IRAQ

REF: BAGHDAD 0468

1. FONMIN KHALATBARY MET WITH NEWSMEN ON RETURN TO TEHRAN FOLLOWING ATTENDANCE AT THE SECOND IRANIAN-IRAQI JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION MEETINGS. HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT MEETINGS WERE MAINLY CONCERNED WITH THE POSSIBILITIES FOR EXTENDED BILATERAL COOPERATION CONCERNING THE SALE, EXPLOITATION AND EXPLORATION OF OIL RESOURCES. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS DID NOT INCLUDE THE DECLINE OF THE DOLLAR NOR THE CONVENING OF A REGIONAL FONMINS CONFERENCE.

2. ONE SPECIFIC ISSUE WHICH THE FONMIN INDICATED WAS THE SIGNING OF A COMPREHENSIVE TRANSIT AGREEMENT BY WHICH IRAQ HAS AGREED TO THE ENTRY OF A LARGER NUMBER OF IRANIAN PILGRIMS TO ITS HOLY CITIES. KHALATBARY REPEATED GOI ANNOUNCEMENT OF A FEW MONTHS AGO THAT IRAQ HAS ISSUED AN INVITATION TO THE SHAH BUT NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR A VISIT.

3. TEHRAN PAPERS REPORTED ON FINAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE WHICH PROVIDES FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES'
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 02245 051407Z

MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR, TOURISM, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.
AS NOTED REFTTEL, COMMUNIQUE REPORTED ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALGIERS (1975) AGREEMENT AND THE TEHRAN PROTOCOL AND EXPRESSED "SATISFACTION" WITH THE PROGRESS MADE.

4. MFA DEPT HEAD DAVOUDI WHO ACCOMPANIED KHALATBARY ON THE VISIT REAFFIRMED TO POLCOUNS MARCH 5 THAT THERE WERE NO POLITICAL ISSUES

DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT. HE CHARACTERIZED THE DISCUSSIONS AND AGREEMENTS REACHED OVER WHOLE BREADTH OF ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ISSUES AS IMPORTANT IN STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIP. THIS OFFICAL, WHO HAS INDICATED A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF SKEPTICISM ON THE IRAN-IRAQ RELATIONSHIP IN THE PAST, THOUGHT THE TALKS HAD GONE WELL AND IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDLY ACCOMPLISHMENT. IN A PREVIOUS CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS BEFORE HE WENT ON THE TRIP, HE HAD INDICATED IT IS IRANIAN POLICY TO TRY TO WEAN THE IRAQIS AWAY FROM DEPENDENCE ON THE SOVIETS. HE SAID IRAN IS SINCERE IN EXTENDING THAT HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO IRAQ EVEN IS DAVOUDI IS NOT SURE ABOUT THE SINCERITY OF THE IRAQIS.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Review Markings:
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